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The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" The report of which committee ? "

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO :—" The report of the committee appointed to suggest amendments to the Madras Estates Land Act."

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL : —" I will consider the suggestion."

Mr. C. RAMASOMAYAJULU :—" May I ask the hon. the Revenue Member whether the Bill can be expected to be introduced during the October meeting of the Council ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" I regret I cannot give a definite promise, but I can assure hon. Members that every endeavour will be made to introduce it as quickly as possible."

Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo :—" May I ask the hon. Member whether he has seen the promise given by the hon. Law Member then in charge of the Bill, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, that he would introduce the Bill in the October sitting of 1927 and also by the hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks that he would try and see that both the Bills, the Malabar Tenancy Bill and the Estates Land Act (Amendment) Bill would be introduced practically at the same time, giving preference to the Malabar Tenancy Bill ? "

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Assuming that the hon. Member's statements are correct, I submit that the failure of my predecessors to carry out these undertakings in spite of the best intentions, justifies my present hesitation to give a similar undertaking."

Estates Land Act

Settlement operations in the villages of Tekkali and other estates in Ganjam district.

* 175 *Q.*—Sriman BISWANATH DAS Mahasayo : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the reason why settlement operations under Chapter XI of the Estates Land Act are not pushed through in the villages of Tekkali, Nandigam, Khallikote, Attagada and Dharkote estates of Ganjam district even though these operations were sanctioned two or three years back ;

(*b*) the reason why special attention is paid to settlement work of Parlakimedi estate even though the ryots protested against those operations ; and

(*c*) whether complaints have been made to the Government that the progress of settlement work is hampered for want of necessary staff with the result that the operations become costly ?

A.—(*a*) It was not found possible for a single Revenue Officer to attend to the work connected with the settlement operations in all the scattered estates of the Ganjam district expeditiously. The Government have therefore sanctioned the appointment of an additional Revenue Officer for the purpose.

(*b*) The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the answer to clause (*c*) of question No. 603 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on 12th October 1928.

(*c*) Representations to this effect have been received.

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Sriman Biswanath Das Mahasayo:—"May I know whether Government would be pleased to appoint an officer of proved honesty on such an important question like the present?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—"We regard all our officers as honest until the contrary is proved."

Irrigation

Increase of the pay of Lock and Wharf Superintendents.

* 176 Q.—Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to question No. 1571 on 1st March 1929 relating to the increase of pay of Lock and Wharf Superintendents—

(a) whether the Government have considered the matter and have arrived at any final decision about the same; and

(b) if so, whether the Government will be pleased to place the decision on the table of the House?

A.—The memorials are still under consideration.

Mr. C. Ramasomayajulu:—"May I know for how long this matter has been under the consideration of Government, and can they expect to come to any decision at any time?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—"I must ask for notice."

Supply of water to the Byalahalu tank of Kadzabal, Hadagalli taluk.

* 177 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) the progress made in the investigation of a scheme to supply water to the Byalahalu tank of Kadzabal, Hadagalli taluk, from Hagari river; and

(b) when the investigation is likely to be completed and when the estimates will be ready?

A.—(a) & (b) It is expected that the investigation of the Belahal project will be completed by September 1929 and the plans and estimates may be ready by that time.

Inams

Alleged withholding of tasdik allowance to Mahalingeshwar temple.

* 178 Q.—Mr. K. R. Karant: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that the tasdik of Rs. 16 due to the trustee of Muddanna Mahalingeshwar temple No. 151 of Inna village, Mangalore taluk, has been withheld, and if so, for how long and for what reasons;

(b) whether it has been withheld for the reason that the buildings are not repaired;

(c) whether the repairs would cost about Rs. 10,000 and if not, how much;

(d) whether the Government have given any directions as to how the services are to be carried on; and

(e) whether Government will issue orders at once to pay the tasdik?